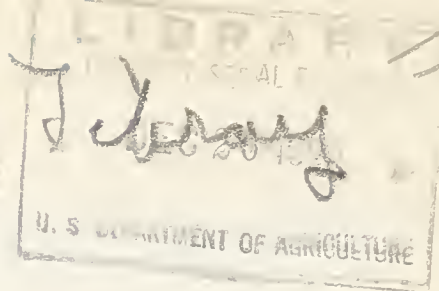


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Foreign



CROPS AND MARKETS

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

ITALIAN FARMERS REQUIRED TO REPORT RICE PRODUCTION

Rice producers in Italy are required to report in detail the amount of rough rice produced 5 days after completion of harvesting. Permits must be obtained from the Government either to own or to sell all rough rice harvested. Failure to comply with these restrictions makes the producer liable to a fine of not less than twice and not more than 5 times the value of the product.

THAILAND RICE PRICES: AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA

The Government of Thailand late in November was expected to sign within a few days an agreement with Indonesia to sell that country 100,000 metric tons (1 metric ton = 2,204.6 pounds) of 25-percent white rice, according to newspaper reports. Deliveries are to begin at an early date, and will be completed during 1956.

The price will be £ 39-0-0 (\$4.94 per 100 pounds) for deliveries on or before December 31, and deliveries after that date will be made at the rate of £38-0-0 (\$4.81 per 100 pounds).

Thailand trade sources are quoting 25- to 28- percent rice for delivery during the last 2 weeks of December 1955 at £40-10-0 (\$5.14 per 100 pounds), and January deliveries at £40-0-0 (\$5.06 per 100 pounds). The price of 25- to 28-percent Government Standard rice in December 1954, f.o.b. Bangkok, single bags, net shipped weight, was \$5.84 per 100 pounds, and in January 1955 it was \$4.89 per 100 pounds.

If these reports are correct, prices reported in connection with the proposed Government-to-Government contract between Thailand and Indonesia are from £1-10-0 per metric ton (21 cents per 100 pounds) to £2-0-0 per ton (25 cents per 100 pounds) lower than prices being quoted currently by private exporters.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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YUGOSLAV TOBACCO EXPORTS UP 13 MILLION POUNDS

Yugoslav exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the first half of 1955 totaled 22.5 million pounds, exceeding all previous calendar years since 1949. Most of the increase occurred in larger shipments to France, the United States, and the Soviet "Bloc" countries. Exports to the United States are at a record level. Shipments to France, the principal export outlet, during the first 6 months of 1955 exceed all previous calendar years except 1952. Takings of Yugoslav leaf by the Soviet "Bloc" countries during the first half of 1955 totaled 5.4 million pounds as compared with only .9 million pounds for 1954. Shipments to France and the Soviet "Bloc" countries are provided through bilateral agreements in exchange for industrial goods.

YUGOSLAVIA: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco by country of destination, with comparisons

Country of Destination	1953	1954	January-June	
			1954	1955
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
German Republic.....	940	2,633	365	376
Austria.....	990	992	992	-
Belgium.....	-	216	-	445
Netherlands.....	35	276	58	66
France.....	5,844	3,289	3,289	9,552
Italy.....	2,315	3,307	2,645	2,535
Algeria.....	342	176	-	138
United States.....	1,465	3,158	1,743	3,706
East Germany.....	-	-	-	675
Poland.....	-	-	-	1,693
Czechoslovakia.....	-	165	-	446
Soviet Union.....	-	738	-	2,569
Others.....	1,609	489	15	293
Total.....	13,540	15,439	9,107	22,494

Source: Statistics of Foreign Trade - First Half Year 1955.

JAPANESE SALES OF PEARL CIGARETTES DECLINING

The new brand of cigarettes, "Pearl", has not been received as favorably by consumers as had been expected by the Japanese Tobacco Monopoly Corporation. Sales of "Pearl" have declined about 65 percent since the middle of September when they were first introduced on the market. "Pearl" is the only brand of cigarettes produced by the Monopoly that contains 10 percent United States Burley. (Cont'd., next page.)

The Japanese Tobacco Monopoly Corporation on December 1 increased the blending percentage of United States flue-cured leaf in two brands of cigarettes, "Peace" and "Hikari". For "Peace", the blending percentage of United States flue-cured leaf was increased from 17 to 22 percent and for "Hikari" from 8 to 10 percent. Sales of these two brands of cigarettes combined during October represented about 15 percent of total sales.

COLOMBIA TOBACCO EXPORTS DOWN 20 PERCENT IN FIRST HALF '55

Colombian exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the January-June period of 1955 totaled 5.8 million pounds -- down about 20 percent from the 7.2 million pounds exported in the corresponding period of 1954. Most of the decline occurred in smaller shipments to the German Republic and Indochina. However, France, Algeria, and French Morocco have substantially increased their takings of Colombian leaf.

COLOMBIA: Exports of unmanufactured tobacco by country of destination, with comparisons

Country of Destination	1953	1954	January-June	
			1954	1955
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
German Republic....	7,031	6,219	5,322	3,462
France.....	1,971	2,108	659	1,389
Algeria.....	170	677	180	438
French Morocco....	242	320	118	176
Belgium.....	126	176	111	114
Netherlands.....	722	701	382	135
Switzerland.....	-	29	29	30
United Kingdom....	13	88	65	13
Others.....	806	1,073	312	1
Total.....	11,081	11,391	7,178	5,758

Source: Boletín Mensual de Estadística, September 1955

TURKISH LEAF EXPORTS TO SOVIET "BLOC" UP

Exports of Turkish leaf in the first half of 1955 totaled 57.5 million pounds as compared with 40.5 million pounds during the corresponding period of 1954. Most of the increase occurred in larger shipments to the Soviet "Bloc" countries. Tobacco shipped to the Soviet "Bloc" moves under trade agreements by which Turkey imports products (mainly industrial goods) from these countries. Shipments to the Soviet "Bloc" countries in first 6 months of the last 3 years totaled 3.6, 12.0, and 24.7 million pounds, respectively.

PHILIPPINE FLUE-CURED LEAF
FORECAST DOUBLE 1955 OUTPUT

A goal of 36 million pounds of flue-cured type tobacco has been set in the Philippine Republic for the crop year ending June 30, 1956. This is more than double the 1955 harvest and, if reached, would make the Republic self-sufficient in flue-cured leaf from the standpoint of quantity. Production of flue-cured-type leaf in 1955 is now placed at 16.8 million pounds, although it is estimated that about 8 percent of this total was sun-cured instead of flue-cured. Flue-cured output in 1954 totaled only 4.5 million pounds. The large increase in 1955 and the continuing expansion in 1956 are the result of import restrictions on flue-cured leaf and high price supports, which guarantee producers a market for their leaf at favorable prices regardless of quality.

Reports indicate that much of the 1955 harvest was of poor quality, as facilities and experience for flue-curing were not adequate for the large crop.

Production of native dark air-cured tobacco in 1955 is estimated at 41.2 million pounds, an increase of about 6 million pounds as compared with the previous year. It is expected that production of this type leaf will decline to slightly less than 40 million in 1956 as producers shift to flue-cured production.

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MEXICO'S LARD IMPORTS DROP

There has been a sharp reduction in Mexico's imports of lard this year as a result of a slight increase in production and the withdrawal of storage stocks. Mexico's utilization of lard amounts to almost 20 percent of the total utilization of edible fats and oils (including the vegetable fats used for industrial purposes).

Imports of lard by Mexico during 1954 totaled around 10,000 metric tons but may only amount to about 5,000 tons in 1955. Production during 1954 was estimated at 43,000 metric tons but is expected to be around 45,000 this year. A further increase in production is expected in 1956.

Lard imports by Mexico are handled exclusively by CEIMSA, a semi-governmental agency in charge of regulating supplies of basic foodstuffs. Therefore imports have been closely controlled even though prices of imported lard are at favorable levels.

Mexico's imports of tallow this year will also be considerably below the total of 28,000 metric tons imported in 1954. Supplies of tallow this year are much smaller than a year ago and tallow consumption has been limited because of the decline in imports and smaller domestic production.

CHILE TO IMPORT HOGS FROM U.S

Chile plans to import by air some breeding hogs from the United States. Animals of the Duroc Jersey, Poland China, and Landrace breeds will be imported by the Hog Breeders' Association and a semi-governmental agency, CONFIN (Consejo de Fomento e Investigaciones Agrícolas).

The Council will import bred gilts for the Livestock Development Plan in the province of Chillan. The Breeders' Association will also bring in sows and boars for distribution among members. This is part of the Chilean program for increasing domestic meat production.

U.S. LARD EXPORTS TO CUBA INCREASE;
DRCP IN TALLOW SHIPMENTS LIKELY

Considerably lower lard prices in the United States in 1955 have stimulated exports to Cuba. Lard imports, all of which will probably be from the United States, are expected to be larger in 1955 than in any year since 1952. However, tallow imports this year are likely to fall below 1954.

Over 80 percent of the lard imports in the first 9 months of 1955 were received in bulk in railroad tank cars. The c.i.f. Havana price for lard in tank cars was around \$13.85 per hundred pounds in the third quarter of 1955. This lard is packaged locally and sold under Cuban brand names. The remainder of the lard is received in drums or tins.

Practically all of the inedible tallow is imported for utilization by two large soap manufacturing plants. Imports, therefore, depend mostly on soap sales and inventories. Domestic production of inedible tallow is used largely by small soap factories. Little change is indicated in domestic production during 1955 in comparison with the year before.

CUBA: Imports of lard and tallow, January-September 1955
(All from U.S.)

Month, 1955	Lard	Edible tallow	Inedible tallow	Total tallow
----- Million pounds -----				
July	148.5	.125	2.03	2.16
August	166.5	.125	1.85	1.98
September	127.0	.134	2.23	2.36
Total, 3rd Quarter....	422.0	.384	6.11	6.50
Total, Jan.-Sept.	1,270.0	1.200	20.00	21.30

MEXICO TO IMPORT CATTLE, SHEEP, GOATS

A plan for purchase and import of \$3,200,000 worth of cows, sheep, and goats was announced November 30 by the President of Mexico. The imports are expected to include 40,000 sheep and 30,000 goats from the United States, and 4,000 registered Holstein cows from Canada. The livestock is to be distributed to Mexican farmers on long-term credit. The importations will be part of Mexico's program to diversify agriculture.

In addition to these planned imports, cattlemen of the state of Sonora, one of the leading cattle exporting states, are working on a program for restocking their ranges by importing 100,000 cows and heifers and 10,000 bulls from the United States. They will require additional financing in order to be able to complete the importations. It is reported that they have thus far obtained credit from an American bank for \$1 million of the \$12.5 million they estimate will be required -- and that most of the \$1 million will be used to purchase dairy cattle.

MEXICAN CATTLE EXPORTS
TO BE LOWER

In view of the shortage of beef now prevailing in Mexico it is believed that the cattle export quota for 1956 will be lower than the 331,000 head (including beef in terms of live cattle) that was authorized in 1955. The quota for 1956 had not been announced by the Ministry of Agriculture by late November.

Of the total quota for 1955, 215,000 head of live cattle had been exported by the end of September. In addition, exports of beef through October 10 represented around 56,000 head of cattle, or a total of 271,000 head against the year's quota of 331,000. The Ministry of Economy has requested the opinion of the Ministry of Agriculture as to whether, in view of the shortage of cattle, permits should be granted for exporting the remaining quota of about 60,000 head during the last 2 months of the year.

Beef production this year in Mexico is expected to total around 12 percent less than a year ago. Pasture conditions have been good and there has been a tendency to restock herds, which had been depleted by several years of drought. Production of mutton and goat meat is expected to be somewhat smaller than a year earlier. It is anticipated that there will be a moderate increase in pork production.

CITRUS FRUIT CONSUMPTION INCREASE FORECAST IN IRELAND

Fruit importers in Ireland forecast a gradual increase in consumption of citrus fruits, provided the income level of consumers continues an upward trend. Now most of the citrus is imported during the holiday season. Spain and Israel have been the most important suppliers from November through April, and most of the summer oranges have come from the Union of South Africa. Very little citrus has been imported from the United States because of the difficulty in obtaining dollars. Since dollars are now more freely available, it is expected that the consumption of United States citrus in Ireland will increase.

AUSTRALIAN APPLE CROP LARGER; PEAR YIELD MAY BE DOWN

The Australian apple crop is indicated to be slightly larger than that of last year, while pears may be slightly lower. There have been reports of hail damage to pears in Southern Australia and Tasmania.

WEATHER UNFAVORABLE FOR SPANISH ORANGES

Rains in the Valencia area of Spain fell almost every day from November 15 to November 30. When it was not raining it was cloudy and damp. Exporters are concerned about the keeping quality of the fruit. It appears that losses will be heavy on clementines and tangerines. Most of the sweet oranges are produced in the Valencia area.

CITRUS PROSPECTS GOOD IN SOUTH AFRICA

Citrus prospects in South Africa are excellent in the main growing areas where there have been good rains in recent weeks. There are exceptions to this favorable outlook in parts of Cape Province. The first official estimate of the 1956 crop should be available in late January or early February.

INDONESIA AGAIN EXPORTS SUGAR

Indonesian estate sugar was a thriving industry in the late thirties and early forties. In 1941, 1.9 million short tons were produced; but during the Japanese occupation most of the factories were either demolished or closed. This resulted in a production of only 20 thousand tons in 1946. Since that time cane-growing conditions have gradually improved.

During the last 3 years sugar production has been greater than consumption, and Indonesia is once more an exporting country. In 1953 Indonesia exported 166 thousand tons of sugar; and in 1954, 231 thousand tons. The 1955 estimate is 275 thousand tons, about 190 thousand of which will go to Japan.

U. S. BEAN EXPORTS IN SEPTEMBER
1955 BELOW YEAR AGO

United States exports of beans in September 1955, the first month of the current marketing year, totaled 112,000 bags, compared with 150,000 bags in August, and 142,000 in September 1954. Almost 96 percent of the September 1955 exports went to four countries -- Cuba, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Italy.

The September exports to Cuba were lower than in any of the three previous months, and less than September a year ago. On the whole, however, these shipments were not unusual for a one-month period.

Exports to Mexico in September were the highest since February 1954 and that in spite of a near record domestic harvest in Mexico in 1955. Bean prices have been rising in Mexico.

Costa Rica is an old and regular although very small market for United States beans. Only in one past year (1945) did Costa Rica import as much as 4,000 bags in a year's time from the United States. The usual annual take until this September was less than 100 bags. The September shipment of 20,000 bags was a commercial sale made from CCC stocks.

Pintos, small reds and Great Northerns made up almost 90 percent of the total export in September 1955. Mexico and Italy received most of the pintos, Cuba and Costa Rica most of the small reds, and Cuba received all of the Great Northerns.

BEANS: United States exports by major destination
in September 1955

Country of destination	Small reds 1/	Pintos	Great Northerns	Other	Total
	- - - - - 100-pound bags - - - - -				
Cuba.....	21,312	2,000	15,318	4,873	43,503
Mexico.....	970	27,316	-	2,168	30,454
Costa Rica.....	20,792	2/	-	2/	20,792
Italy.....	2/	11,592	-	2/	11,592
Other.....	2,143	260	-	3,206	5,609
Total.....	45,217	41,168	15,318	10,247	111,950

1/ May include small quantities of "Other classes" of beans.

2/ If any, included in "Other".

FRENCH APPLE AND PEAR IMPORT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

The French Ministry of Agriculture has announced quotas for apples and pears to be imported under bilateral trade agreements in 1955-56. These quotas are shown in comparison with imports in the previous season, as follows:

<u>Country of Origin</u>	<u>1954/55 Imports</u> - - - 1,000 boxes - - -	<u>1955/56 Quotas</u> - - -
<u>Apples</u>		
Italy	688	436
Netherlands	135	322
Belgium	81	193
Switzerland	381	276
Yugoslavia	44	46
Lebanon	0	23
Chile	104	92
Argentina	122	92
Total	1,554	1,479
<u>Pears</u>		
Italy	1/	22
Argentina	112	66
Total	112	88
<u>1/ Less than 500</u>		

Imports of both apples and pears are expected to begin in February except for Swiss apples, which are to begin in December.

Special quotas are expected to be announced later permitting imports from any country, including the United States and Sterling Area countries. These would include a quota of 88,000 boxes of pears beginning February 1 to be imported with price equalization payments. A quota of 138,000 boxes of apples under similar conditions is expected to open beginning February 16. If however, due to short apple crops in Belgium, Switzerland, and the Netherlands, imports from these countries should fall short of their quotas, the special quotas will probably be increased.

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TURKISH RAISIN CROP DOWN SHARPLY

The 1955 crop of raisins (sultanas) in Turkey is estimated at 44,000 short tons, or 39 percent less than the 1954 crop of 72,000 tons. Average production (1948-52) is 74,000 tons. Spring frosts were responsible for the reduced production.

1955 CASHEW SUPPLIES DOWN

As a result of a short Indian crop of cashews and reduced supplies of African cashews in India; it is estimated that only 113,000 short tons, in-shell basis, of new-crop cashews will have been processed this year in India. This is the smallest quantity since 1952, and 21 percent less than in 1954. A comparison with 1954 is as follows:

	1954 - - - - -	1955, preliminary Short tons - - - - -
Indian production	65,000	50,000
Indian imports from East Africa	<u>78,000</u>	<u>63,000</u>
Total.....	143,000	113,000

On the basis of a 25-percent kernel yield, and a decrease in stocks equivalent to 4,000 tons, shelled basis, the 1955 exportable surplus is estimated at a little over 30,000 tons, shelled, after allowing 2,000 tons for domestic consumption. Exports in 1954 totalled 34,671 tons, shelled.

Cashew kernels are quoted at approximately 50 cents a pound c. & f. New York, compared with 38 cents at the beginning of the year.

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INDIA OPENS NEW MILK PLANT AT ANAND

The new \$850,000 dairy project of the Kaira district cooperative union at Anand in Bombay State has been formally opened by Prime Minister Nehru. The plant has a daily pasteurizing capacity of 300,000 pounds; and can process daily up to 10,000 pounds of butter, 12,500 pounds of powdered milk, and 1,200 pounds of casein.

Production of milk, all of it from buffaloes, at Anand during 1954-55, was approximately 165,000 pounds daily during January; at which time the city of Bombay was taking only 43,000 pounds daily for fluid use; thus there was a surplus for processing of about 122,000 pounds of milk a day. During the low production season in July 1955; daily production was under 90,000 pounds and shipments as fluid milk to Bombay left only 34,000 pounds for processing.

Some of the equipment in the plant was gift from UNICEF, while equipment valued at more than \$210,000 was a gift from New Zealand under the Colombo Plan (see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 21, 1955).

SWISS INCREASE DAIRY FUNDS

An additional \$580,000 has been voted for the Swiss dairy fund to subsidize the milk and butter industry. This brings to just under \$1.2 million the total available for the year. The Federal Assembly, which voted the money, stated it was to give the dairy industry in Switzerland a better competitive position with the vegetable oils industry, both domestic and foreign.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTER AND CHEESE
EXPORTS TO U.K. INCREASE

Arrivals of New Zealand butter in the United Kingdom in October amounted to 14.9 million pounds, an increase of 15 percent over October 1954. Shipments in November are expected to total 30.0 million pounds. Arrivals of cheese in October were 19.0 million pounds, compared with 5.0 million pounds in the previous year. Shipments are expected to fall sharply in November.

NEW ZEALAND UPS BUTTERFAT
PAYMENT FOR CHEESE

The New Zealand Dairy Products Commission has announced that at the end of the present production season, additional payments to cooperative cheese manufacturers will amount to 0.58 cents per pound on all butterfat used during the season in the production of cheese.

As reported in the August 29 issue of Foreign Crops and Markets, the basic price of butterfat for butter was reduced in July by 1.7 cents per pound, while the guaranteed price for butterfat for cheese dropped 2.0 cents. Since that reduction there has been a firming of the cheese market and consequent reduction in the estimated loss from the sale of last season's production, allowing the recent price increase.

The Dairy Board and the Commission have agreed to separate the differential payment for cheese from guaranteed price procedure and in the future they will meet annually to discuss the amount of differential for the coming season before the Commission guaranteed price is fixed.

As of November, there were approximately 13.4 million pounds of butter and 24.6 million pounds of cheese from last season's production to be sold. It is estimated that a net loss of about \$4.8 million occurred in last year's butter and cheese trading.

The cheese price increase is also expected to slow the swing to casein production by some cheese manufacturers (see Foreign Crops and Markets, July 11, 1955). It is felt that the present casein market for New Zealand output is firm, and additional changes from cheese to casein would impair the stability of the New Zealand dairy industry.

NEW ZEALAND BUTTERFAT PRODUCTION UP IN 1954-55

Butterfat production in New Zealand in 1954-55 was the second highest on record. Although the season was rather dry, butterfat production totalled 509.3 million pounds, compared with approximately 500.0 million pounds in 1953-54.

About 80 percent of the total butterfat produced was exported in the form of butter, cheese, or preserved milk. The United Kingdom was the biggest purchaser, with 275.1 million pounds of butter and 201.8 million pounds of cheese. The second largest buyer was the U.S.S.R., which purchased 23.3 million pounds of butter.

Production of buttermilk powder rose to 21.7 million pounds, compared with 14.0 million pounds a year earlier. Casein production amounted to 25.8 million pounds, an increase of 7.2 percent over the previous season. Condensed and dried milk products produced from whole milk showed little change, but nonfat dry milk solids production fell 22 percent below 1953-54 production.

During the first 3 months of the new season, butterfat production was only slightly below the earlier year. However, a small gain occurred in September. It appears that production was well maintained in October in most dairy districts. Conditions were generally favorable throughout the month, except for some cold spells in scattered areas.

RHODESIA PROPOSES PRICE GUARANTEES TO INCREASE FLUID MILK SUPPLIES

To secure more milk for fluid use, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyassaland proposes to give a long-term price guarantee to Southern Rhodesia dairy farmers for whole milk going to fluid use. The proposal is to be referred to the Agricultural Marketing Council for approval and, if the suggestion is adopted, it will replace the present system of annual reviews.

In January 1956 the Government will introduce the differential price system for milk under which seasonal prices will continue to be paid for all milk going to fluid use, plus a quantity equal to 20 percent of the total sales of fluid milk each month. For all milk surplus to this quantity the producer will be paid the processing value of \$2.38 a hundredweight.

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CORRECTION: In the item head "Belgian Butter Situation," in the December 5, 1955, issue of Foreign Crops and Markets, the designation Grade "A" 82-score butter in the third paragraph should have read Grade "A" 82-percent butterfat.

EGYPT: Exports of cotton by countries of destination;
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49; annual 1951-54

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Averages		1951	1952	1953	1954
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria.....	^{1/} 23.7	^{2/}	9.5	34.4	24.7	23.1
Belgium-Luxembourg..	17.8	17.0	6.8	21.8	22.8	18.2
Czechoslovakia.....	49.9	52.5	36.6	58.6	52.8	54.0
Denmark.....	^{2/}	^{1/} 4.2	0	2.0	4.2	2.4
France.....	238.7	161.9	112.6	291.2	210.3	140.9
Germany, Rep. of....	147.2	^{2/}	69.5	127.6	136.7	87.5
Hungary.....	18.3	^{2/}	22.9	26.8	24.9	33.9
Italy.....	105.2	163.8	112.7	170.1	124.5	79.4
Netherlands.....	5.5	^{1/} 39.5	10.0	47.2	25.8	21.1
Poland.....	31.8	16.2	8.0	27.2	4.6	36.5
Portugal.....	8.7	^{1/} 5.1	.9	4.0	5.7	3.4
Rumania.....	^{3/} 47.7	^{2/}	34.9	4.6	8.3	12.2
Spain.....	25.1	25.4	62.2	66.4	41.8	33.8
Sweden.....	12.8	17.0	2.0	17.7	7.9	3.4
Switzerland.....	71.5	33.4	28.1	67.5	67.6	48.0
United Kingdom.....	592.3	367.5	68.3	77.7	206.7	65.2
Yugoslavia.....	^{2/}	^{2/}	2.0	17.6	15.0	14.3
Australia.....	^{2/}	6.5	9.3	16.3	7.3	1.4
China.....	24.2	^{2/}	16.5	60.9	52.0	35.5
India.....	98.8	255.8	110.9	213.7	217.3	129.0
Japan.....	143.4	^{2/}	40.3	84.6	88.4	74.4
Canada.....	8.2	^{2/}	.3	28.5	6.6	0
United States.....	49.5	89.1	92.3	84.4	68.9	65.8
Soviet Union.....	^{2/}	^{1/} 129.4	38.5	104.2	0	60.9
Other countries.....	22.0	66.6	13.2	72.2	60.2	37.0
Total.....	1,742.3	1,450.9	908.3	1,727.2	1,485.0	1,081.3

^{1/} 3-year average. ^{2/} Included in "Other countries." ^{3/} 4-year average.

Source: Monthly Summary of the Foreign Trade of Egypt, Agricultural Attaches and other representatives abroad.

NEW MILK DEPOT TO BE OPENED IN KENYA

Kenya Cooperative Creameries expects to have a milk depot operating soon in Nariobi, Kenya. The Chairman has stated that the creamery will operate on a small scale and expansion will depend upon results of marketing milk through the facilities. He believes that a depot is essential for marketing milk in Nariobi; and it is also felt that the facility will help immensely in marketing byproducts.

EGYPT'S COTTON EXPORTS
DECLINE IN 1954-55

Egypt's cotton exports declined to 1,081,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the August-July 1954-55 marketing year, a reduction of 27 percent from the 1,485,000 bales exported in 1953-54, and 37 percent below exports of 1,727,000 bales in 1952-53. A greater decline in prices of other foreign growths than that in prices for Egyptian, and liquidation of stocks of Egyptian cotton held by the British Raw Cotton Commission were major factors in the continuing decline. Sharpest declines were registered in exports to France, the Republic of Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, and India. The biggest drop in sales during the Egyptian marketing year (September 1 - August 31) was in Ashmouni, a 28-percent reduction as compared with 23 percent for Karnak. (See Export table, opposite page.)

Numerous changes in government policy have marked the beginning of the 1955-56 cotton-marketing year. Reduction in cotton acreage was announced for Upper Egypt; the Alexandria Cotton Futures Market was reopened on September 27, 1955; and major changes were made in cotton marketing policy.

The maximum amount of crop land that can be planted to cotton in 1956 in Upper Egypt, the Ashmouni growing area, will be 33-1/3 percent as compared with 37 percent last year. The maximum allowable in Lower Egypt, the Karnak, Menoufi, and Giza 30 areas, remains unchanged at 33-1/3 percent.

Changes in cotton-marketing policy that accompanied the reopening of the Futures Market and the simultaneous freeing of cotton prices from governmental control included: Establishment of basic grades for futures contracts as Good to Fully Good for Karnak and Menoufi, and as Good for Ashmouni and Giza 30; establishment of these same basic grades for minimum guaranteed support prices; the abolishment in cotton export trading of entitlement accounts for all currencies; and the reduction of cotton export taxes for Karnak and Menoufi from 15.20 to 8.20 tallaris per kantar (8.77 to 4.77 cents per pound), and for Ashmouni and Giza 30 from 10.20 to 2.20 tallaris per kantar (5.88 to 1.28 cents per pound).

In addition to the support prices fixed for the basic grades on September 1, 1955, a subsequent order on November 17 established a full list of prices for all grades at which the Egyptian Cotton Commission will buy ginned cotton offered at Alexandria. These price-support levels are roughly analogous to the United States price supports, except that those in Egypt are administered through outright purchases rather than loans. The support levels are below current spot prices, as evidenced in the table at the top of the next page.

The second official estimate of Egypt's 1955-56 cotton crop placed production at 1,760,000 bales, including scarto or 10 percent higher than the 1954-55 crop of 1,598,000 bales. A reduction from the first official estimate of 1,806,000 bales was attributed principally to damage from leafworm.

EGYPT: Comparison of spot cotton prices, November 17, 1955, with minimum guaranteed prices to growers for government purchase of the 1955-56 crop

Variety	Spot prices 1/ Nov. 17, 1955		Support prices, 1955-56 crop	
	tallaris per kantar	cents per lb.	tallaris per kantar	cents per pound
Karnak, G/FG.....	79.08	46.00	69	40.13
Menoufi, G/FG.....	n.a.	-	64	37.22
Giza 30, Good.....	n.a.	-	59	34.32
Ashmouni, Good.....	56.13	32.65	55	31.99

1/ Excludes export taxes.

Egypt's cotton consumption for 1954-55 was estimated at 360,000 bales, an increase of 10 percent over consumption of 325,000 bales in 1953-54. Cotton stocks on August 1, 1955, were estimated at 640,000 bales, increasing sharply from the 485,000 bales held a year earlier.

COTTON PRODUCTION IN NIGERIA CONTINUES UPWARD

Production of cotton in Nigeria during the marketing year August-July 1954-55 was estimated at 170,000 bales (500 pounds gross), an increase of 26 percent over production of 135,000 bales in 1953-54. This continued the upward trend registered for the last 7 years. Further expansion is anticipated for 1955-56, with production tentatively estimated at 180,000 bales. Most of Nigerian cotton production is centered in the Northern Region where the expansion program is continuing at a rapid pace.

Responsibility for this expansion is vested in the Nigerian Cotton Marketing Board which has programs for acreage increase, improvement of quality, and road building into new cotton areas. Free distribution of improved seed has also been an important factor in increasing cotton production.

Nearly all of Nigeria's cotton is exported to the United Kingdom. It was sold to the Raw Cotton Commission before the end of the 1953-54 season, but to private buyers beginning with the 1954-55 season. Exports in 1954-55 were estimated at 140,000 bales as compared with 135,000 in 1953-54.

Nigeria's cotton consumption is placed at about 15,000 bales annually, but considerable quantities of cotton yarns and fabrics are imported for domestic use. The United Kingdom, Japan, and India are the principal sources of the manufactured cotton products so imported.

Cotton stocks on August 1, 1955, were estimated at 40,000 bales as compared with 25,000 held a year earlier.

MEDITERRANEAN BASIN OLIVE OIL OUTPUT DOWN SHARPLY

Mediterranean Basin olive oil production from 1955-crop olives is forecast by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 820,000 short tons on the basis of preliminary information. This would represent a decline of one-fifth from last season's output, now revised to 1,033,000 tons. Moreover, this volume of oil would be the smallest since 1950 when production dropped to an estimated 628,000 tons. These production estimates represent the total oil pressed, including allowances made for consumption by growers in countries reporting only commercial production. The estimates must be looked upon as highly preliminary because it is extremely difficult to judge production until the olives have been picked and crushed.

Unfavorable weather in the spring and summer of 1955 in many olive-producing countries of the Mediterranean Basin indicated that this would not be a year of high production as would have been expected in the normally alternating high and low production cycle. As the season advanced, prospects of a good crop were further dimmed by continued adverse weather coupled with resulting heavy insect infestation and olive diseases. It now appears that Greece and Portugal are the only Mediterranean countries where production may exceed that of last season.

The small outturn of olive oil expected from this season's crop is particularly significant in that the shortage cannot be offset by carry-over stocks as was the case last year. Consequently, relatively heavy imports of vegetable seed oils will be necessary to meet domestic requirements-- particularly if exports of olive oil are to be maintained. Fortunately, world supplies of most other edible vegetable oils, principally soybean, cottonseed, and peanut oils from 1955 crops, are expected to be large, particularly in the United States. But the increase may not be sufficient to offset the expected short supply of olive and sunflower seed oils.

Olive oil production in Greece may reach 130,000 tons or about 10,000 tons more than a year ago--but only 60 percent of the volume produced from the 1953 crop. Unfavorable weather, heavy insect damage, and certain plant diseases adversely affected the olive crop. The quality of the crop is reported to be about average.

Italian production is expected to be about 165,000 tons. This volume of oil would be slightly over half the production from the 1954 crop and would represent one of the smallest yields of the postwar period. Here too, unfavorable weather and severe insect damage were responsible for the poor crop. The quality of the crop reportedly is not so good as last year. The long-term trend in Italian olive oil production is upward. During the past 2 years an estimated 2 to 2.5 million olive trees were planted in central and southern Italy.

The preliminary forecast of olive oil production in Portugal is 95,000 tons, three-fourths larger than the low outturn last year, but only 70 percent of the record tonnage from the 1953 crop. (Cont'd., next page.)

OLIVE OIL 1/: Estimated production in the Mediterranean Basin,
averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1952-1955

(Short tons)

Country	Average		1952	1953	1954 2/	1955 2/
	1935-39	1945-49				
EUROPE						
France.....	8,000:	7,000:	7,000:	12,000:	9,000:	5,000
Greece.....	131,500:	132,540:	77,000:	174,600:	120,000:	130,000
Italy.....	256,000:	189,800:	219,000:	381,000:	313,000:	165,000
Portugal.....	64,000:	67,460:	57,700:	134,400:	53,500:	95,000
Spain.....	3/ 357,400:	365,200:	308,600:	363,800:	335,000:	300,000
Yugoslavia.....	3/ 5,900:	4,100:	3,000:	800:	9,000:	600
MIDDLE EAST						
Israel.....	4/ 7,000:	3/ 2,500:	2,000:	1,500:	2,500:	600
Syria.....	(12,500:	14,900:	5,500:	3,800:	8,000:	7,000
Lebanon.....	(10,800:	8,000:	11,000:	8,300:	3,800:	
Turkey.....	44,000:	38,000:	60,000:	30,000:	55,000:	35,000
AFRICA						
Algeria.....	20,000:	17,600:	29,000:	28,000:	30,000:	25,000
French Morocco....	10,300:	11,800:	13,000:	18,000:	27,560:	15,000
Tunisia.....	49,300:	42,300:	38,600:	90,000:	58,400:	35,000
Libya.....	2,600:	3,000:	1,000:	12,000:	4,000:	-
Total.....	968,500:	907,000:	829,400:	1,260,900:	1,033,260:	5/820,000

1/ Total oil pressed in marketing season beginning October of years shown; excludes oil extracted from residue. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Average of less than 5 years. 4/ Territory formerly known as Palestine. 5/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives abroad, results of office research, and other information.

Opinions vary greatly with regard to the quantity of oil that will be produced from Spain's olive harvest. Estimates range from considerably below to slightly above production from the 1954 crop, which is now officially placed at 335,000 tons. It appears probable that this year's crop may approximate 300,000 tons. This volume of oil would be less than half the record tonnage of oil obtained from 1951-crop olives. Spain's production normally accounts for over one-third the total outturn of the Mediterranean area.

Reports from Middle East countries are incomplete as yet. It is believed, however, that the crop may yield around 46,000 tons of oil against about 74,000 last year. In Turkey the decline from 1954 may be about 20,000 tons. (Cont'd. at bottom of opposite page.)

WORLD SOYBEAN IMPORTS EXPECTED TO BE UP IN 1955

Indications are that total imports of soybeans into Western Europe in 1955 will be greater than in any year since 1951. In that year about 28.7 million bushels were imported. The total in 1954 was approximately 20.6 million bushels, of which about 14.8 million came from the United States. (Text cont'd., next page.)

SOYBEANS: Imports into major markets, 1954 and specified months, 1955
- - - - (1,000 bushels) - - - -

Country	United States		China-Manchuria		Others		Total	
	1954	1955 1/	1954	1955 1/	1954	1955 1/	1954	1955 1/
Europe	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Belgium-	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Luxembourg.....	303:2/	194:-	-	-	-	2/	37:	303:2/ 264
Denmark.....	1,042:3/4/	1,521:1,058:4/5/	333:	-	-	-	2,100:4/1,854	
France.....	1,199:3/	1,523:172:	6/	191:	175:	1,562:	1,698	
Germany, Rep. of:	7,590:7/	5,077:1,130:7/	2,925:8/513:8/7/	727:	9,233:7/8,729			
Italy.....	6/	2/ 9/	184:	n.a.:	4:	n.a.:	188:2/ 9/	
Netherlands.....	3,226:7/	2,351:472:7/	494:	58:7/	57:	3,756:7/2,902		
Norway.....	-	3/ 364:-	-	6/	-	124:	946:488	
Sweden.....	3/ 250:	n.a.:	n.a.:	n.a.:	n.a.:	n.a.:	644:248	
United Kingdom...	3/1,210:3/4/	1,063:n.a.:	n.a.:	n.a.:	n.a.:	n.a.:	1,829:4/2,040	
Total.....	14,820:	-	3,016:	-	766:	-	20,561:-	
Others	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Canada.....	6,874:7/	2,613:-	7/	2:-	-	6,874:7/2,615		
Japan.....	16,273:7/	14,728:1,114:7/	5,489:8/594:7/8/692:	18,657:7/20,909				
Taiwan.....	3,448:3/4/	3,641:1:	n.a.:	9/	n.a.:	3,449:n.a.		

1/ January-July unless otherwise indicated. 2/ January-June. 3/ U. S. exports.
4/ January-September. 5/ Estimate. 6/ Included in "Others". 7/ January-August.
8/ Largely from Brazil. 9/ Less than 500 bushels. Compiled from official sources.

(MEDITERRANEAN OLIVE OIL. Cont'd. from opposite page.)--African production seems to be down about 40 percent. Following a yield of around 30,000 tons for 3 successive years, Algeria's output probably will drop to about 25,000 this year. In French Morocco, fruit fall caused by hot desert winds likely will reduce the oil outturn to around 15,000 tons or roughly half the large quantity realized last season. Tunisia's production is tentatively placed at 35,000 tons, 40 percent less than last year and less than one-third the record tonnage from the 1949 crop of olives. Failure of the blossoms to set and a shrinkage of the stems of the young olives reportedly were the major factors attributing to the poor crop.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad.

During 1955 imports of soybeans from the United States appear to be running about the same. Imports from China-Manchuria, while still not nearly so great as from the United States, seem to be increasing. The major European importing countries will probably import slightly more in 1955, while France and the United Kingdom appear to be increasing their imports substantially.

Japan, still the world's major market for soybeans, imported 20.9 million bushels through August of 1955 as compared with 18.7 bushels during the entire year of 1954. Of the 1954 total 16.3 million bushels, or 92 percent, came from the United States. During the first 8 months of 1955, 14.7 million bushels, or 70 percent, of the imports were from the United States. During the same period 5.5 million bushels were imported from China, as compared with 1.1 million imported from that country during the entire year of 1954.

Other important importers of soybeans are Canada and Taiwan, and both received practically all of their imports in 1954 from the United States. Taiwan's imports are expected to remain up in 1955. Canada had imported only 2.6 million bushels through the first 8 months of 1955, but imports are generally concentrated in the last quarter.

Israel also has become an important importer during the past few years. Although import figures for soybeans, as such, are not available, the United States exported about 1.1 million bushels to that country in 1954. In 1955 this figure had already been exceeded by the 1.4 million bushels that had been exported to Israel through the month of September.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U. S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE

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Country Highlights in 1954-55 U. S. Agricultural Exports. Foreign Ag. Circ. FATP-42-55

United States Import Quotas and Duties on Cotton and Cotton Waste and Imports Under Quotas. Foreign Ag. Circ. FC-11-55

SECOND SURVEY CONFIRMS LARGE WORLD BREADGRAIN PRODUCTION

World breadgrain production in 1955-56 is estimated at about 261 million short tons, on the basis of the latest information available to the Foreign Agricultural Service. Production of the two grains, wheat and rye, combined is about 4 percent greater than in 1954-55 and only slightly below the near-record outturn of 1953-54. The current estimate is 19 percent above the low level of the 1945-49 period, though slightly less than the first forecast as reported in Foreign Crops and Markets, of September 26, 1955.

The principal changes since that first forecast are upward revisions in estimates for France, Italy, and Turkey-- which were, however, offset by a reduction in the allowance formerly used for the Soviet Union. The net result of these and minor revisions for some other countries was to lower the estimated world total about 15 million bushels from the September forecast.

Wheat production in North America is now estimated at 1,441 million bushels. This is well above the small 1954 harvest, when Canada's poor outturn brought the continental total to the lowest point since 1943. While the Canadian crop of 494 million bushels is considerably larger than the 1954 outturn, it is still sharply below the high level of the 3 preceding years, as a result of reduced acreage. Yields were well above average. The United States crop of 916 million bushels is the smallest since 1943, also because of reduced acreage. The harvested acreage of 47.4 million acres is the smallest since 1934. Yields are at the near-record figure of 19.3 bushels per harvested acre.

Rye production of 43 million bushels in North America is slightly larger than in 1954. The increase is mainly in the United States, where the current crop of 28.4 million bushels compares with 23.7 million bushels last year. The increase is due to larger acreage. Canadian acreage, in contrast, is even smaller than in 1954, but high yields offset the reduced plantings.

Europe's 1955 wheat production is now estimated at the high figure of 1,770 million bushels, compared with 1,720 million bushels last year and the 1945-49 average of 1,265 million bushels. Record crops were reported for Italy, the German Republic, and Belgium. These, together with near-record harvests in some other countries, notably France and Greece, more than offset sizable reductions in Spain, Portugal, and Sweden. High yields were the principal factor in the generally high level of production. Production in eastern Europe was also somewhat larger than in 1954.

Rye production in western Europe was less than in 1954, principally because of the smaller crop in the German Republic, the ranking producer of the area. The rye outturn in eastern Europe, however, appears to be somewhat larger than that of a year ago. This area, together with the Soviet Union, accounts for about three fourths of the world rye production.

WHEAT: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1953-55 $\frac{1}{2}$

Continent and country	Acreage 2/				Yield per acre 3/				Production			
	Average		1953		Average		1953		Average		1953	
	1935-39	1945-49	acres	1,000	1935-39	1945-49	acres	1,000	1935-39	1945-49	bushels	1,000
NORTH AMERICA												
Canada	25,595	24,717	25,513	21,504	12.2	14.7	24.1	12.7	312,399	362,774	613,962	308,909
Mexico	1,244	1,244	1,624	1,804	11.5	12.5	15.2	16.8	14,284	15,522	24,640	30,300
United States	57,293	71,024	67,661	53,712	13.2	16.9	17.3	18.1	758,629	1,202,396	1,169,484	969,781
Estimated total 5/	84,170	97,040	94,860	79,850	-	-	-	-	1,086,000	1,581,000	1,809,000	1,310,000
EUROPE												
Austria	630	528	563	603	25.3	20.5	34.2	28.2	15,942	10,800	19,250	16,600
Belgium	394	371	421	473	40.3	39.7	48.9	46.5	15,887	14,733	20,590	21,140
Denmark	319	175	175	211	45.4	49.7	60.3	50.9	14,470	8,704	10,430	10,730
Finland	230	420	355	400	26.5	21.3	26.8	25.0	6,100	8,966	9,500	10,000
France	12,360	10,354	10,430	11,100	22.8	23.0	31.6	35.0	286,505	338,200	330,000	388,220
German Republic	2,785	2,735	2,832	3,200	33.2	29.5	41.0	38.9	92,400	67,420	116,100	106,260
Greece	2,172	1,917	2,581	2,564	14.0	12.9	19.9	17.6	30,425	24,750	51,400	44,800
Ireland	225	561	380	486	34.2	31.6	40.5	37.6	7,639	17,746	15,400	18,250
Italy	12,577	11,742	12,100	12,300	22.1	19.3	27.5	22.0	278,366	227,200	332,800	266,400
Luxembourg	47	32	44	40	25.9	25.0	30.7	31.2	1,215	800	1,350	1,500
Netherlands	333	262	161	272	45.7	42.4	59.4	53.6	15,217	11,109	9,560	14,590
Norway	80	91	43	50	29.9	29.3	33.3	30.2	2,391	2,670	1,430	1,510
Portugal	1,720	1,665	1,867	1,907	10.7	8.5	13.6	14.4	18,400	14,190	27,470	14,500
Spain	56/11,253	9,640	10,606	10,670	14.0	12.1	11.8	16.9	6/157,986	116,700	125,000	180,000
Sweden	740	749	959	875	35.6	31.0	37.8	35.1	26,351	23,222	36,270	37,490
Switzerland	183	223	211	223	33.1	35.0	38.4	42.7	6,050	7,800	8,110	10,070
United Kingdom	1,843	2,148	2,217	2,457	33.8	36.1	44.9	42.3	62,361	77,505	99,460	103,890
Yugoslavia	5,400	-	-	-	18.1	-	-	-	97,700	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	53,500	47,590	50,950	52,120	-	-	-	-	1,136,000	947,000	1,308,000	1,328,000
Other Europe, estimated total 7/	21,350	18,530	20,450	20,770	-	-	-	-	464,000	318,000	422,000	392,000
Estimated total, all Europe 5/...	74,850	66,120	71,400	72,890	-	-	-	-	1,600,000	1,265,000	1,730,000	1,720,000
J.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	104,000	82,200	-	-	11.9	10.8	-	-	1,240,000	885,000	-	-

ASIA														
Iran	8/ 4,191	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8/ 72,128	70,791	82,500
Iraq	8/ 1,724	1,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,114	14,424	26,000
Lebanon	2/ 1,363	166	165	165	165	165	165	165	165	165	165	11.2	2,133	1,980
Syria	2/ 8,973	9,436	2,347	2,720	2,720	2,720	2,720	2,720	2,720	2,720	2,720	11.6	19,091	1,910
Turkey	2/ 54,447	54,447	15,840	15,830	15,830	15,830	15,830	15,830	15,830	15,830	15,830	11.5	29,400	31,200
China	8/ 2,896	2,896	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.6	125,089	293,950
Manchuria	8/ 25,460	25,460	24,286	26,310	26,310	26,310	26,310	26,310	26,310	26,310	26,310	8/ 750,000	864,280	-
India 10/	8/ 9,305	9,305	10,337	10,650	10,650	10,650	10,650	10,650	10,650	10,650	10,650	11.8	212,336	275,590
Pakistan 10/	8/ 1,735	1,735	1,696	1,660	1,660	1,660	1,660	1,660	1,660	1,660	1,660	11.0	129,017	105,000
Japan	8/ 832	832	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33.5	34,322	50,500
Korea	8/ 1,926	1,926	2,416	2,857	2,857	2,857	2,857	2,857	2,857	2,857	2,857	10,240	-	-
Estimated total 5/	114,190	117,860	133,130	140,750	142,410	142,410	142,410	142,410	142,410	142,410	142,410	-	1,558,000	1,790,000
AFRICA														
Algeria	4,185	3,566	4,307	4,849	4,690	4,690	4,690	4,690	4,690	4,690	4,690	10.1	29,900	40,440
Egypt	1,464	1,618	1,858	1,864	1,581	1,581	1,581	1,581	1,581	1,581	1,581	33.7	42,633	56,800
French Morocco	3,254	2,621	3,526	3,999	3,786	3,786	3,786	3,786	3,786	3,786	3,786	9.3	21,792	40,900
Tunisia	1,950	1,907	2,612	3,356	1,955	1,955	1,955	1,955	1,955	1,955	1,955	7.7	14,962	21,300
Union of South Africa 11/	1,926	2,416	3,014	2,857	2,963	2,963	2,963	2,963	2,963	2,963	2,963	8.2	15,067	21,160
Estimated total 5/	13,850	13,740	16,970	18,610	16,650	16,650	16,650	16,650	16,650	16,650	16,650	-	143,000	195,000
SOUTH AMERICA														
Argentina	15,834	11,432	12,345	13,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	221,769	193,740	227,800
Brazil	414	876	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,978	11,283	26,000
Chile	1,963	1,980	1,882	1,980	1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925	1,925	17.8	35,628	35,100
Peru	285	280	425	420	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,274	3,798	6,200
Uruguay	1,210	1,060	1,850	1,840	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,256	13,124	30,000
Estimated total 5/	20,490	16,260	18,910	20,200	19,430	19,430	19,430	19,430	19,430	19,430	19,430	-	263,000	333,000
OCEANIA														
Australia	13,128	12,662	10,751	10,499	10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500	20.0	177,742	197,960
New Zealand	221	140	114	110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,129	5,241	4,780
Total	13,349	12,802	10,865	10,609	10,590	10,590	10,590	10,590	10,590	10,590	10,590	-	182,983	202,740
Estimated world total 5/	424,900	406,020	465,140	464,910	483,480	483,480	483,480	483,480	483,480	483,480	483,480	-	16,085,000	17,390,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1955 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which begin late in 1955 and end early in 1956. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Revised estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries, for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Estimated totals which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 6/ Figure for 1955 only. 7/ Comprises Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Poland and Rumania. 8/ Average of less than 5 years. 9/ Estimates for Syria and Lebanon not shown separately during this period. 10/ Figures for the period shown are not strictly comparable since figures for 1953-1955 include allowances for non-reporting areas, which were not included in earlier figures shown, but were included in estimated total for Asia. 11/ Production on European holdings only.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Preliminary estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

NOTE: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1953-55 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/			Yield per acre 3/			Production		
	Average			Average			Average		
	1935-39	1945-49	1953	1935-39	1945-49	1953	1935-39	1945-49	1953
NORTH AMERICA									
Canada	816	1,129	1,494	850	778	778	11.2	16.7	14,711
United States	3,699	1,810	1,384	1,718	2,081	2,081	12.3	13.8	28,448
Total	4,515	2,939	2,878	2,568	2,859	2,859	-	-	43,159
EUROPE									
Austria	881	616	561	539	529	529	19.9	27.0	15,880
Belgium	401	259	196	203	184	184	36.3	47.4	8,400
Denmark	354	379	323	277	189	189	34.2	39.4	9,630
Finland	500	376	240	245	225	225	21.2	23.5	10,900
France	1,613	1,202	1,008	1,001	959	959	17.2	20.2	5,750
German Republic	4,080	3,480	3,442	3,780	3,697	3,697	18.6	18.3	17,300
Greece	163	130	168	152	143	143	28.4	37.8	137,590
Italy	256	253	235	220	205	205	17.9	22.6	2,000
Luxembourg	18	15	12	14	13	13	25.7	30.5	4,800
Netherlands	560	492	425	410	379	379	31.5	49.5	18,300
Norway	13	4	2	2	2	2	31.2	29.5	55
Portugal	620	680	657	637	637	637	8.9	11.7	59
Spain	5/ 1,404	1,553	1,525	1,532	1,540	1,540	11.0	12.5	7,480
Sweden	495	363	328	368	324	324	30.0	32.2	18,500
Switzerland	38	32	37	37	37	37	33.2	48.0	19,170
United Kingdom	17	59	68	44	20	20	33.9	39.7	11,780
Yugoslavia	633	-	-	-	-	-	30.0	35.5	1,470
Estimated total 6/	12,050	10,480	9,910	10,120	9,610	9,610	-	-	8,500
Other Europe, estimated total 7/									
21,620	17,360	19,120	19,000	19,680	-	-	-	-	285,000
Estimated total, all Europe 8/	33,670	27,840	29,030	29,120	29,290	29,290	-	-	228,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)									
60,800	72,300	-	-	-	-	-	14.6	12.4	885,000
ASIA									
Turkey	939	1,017	1,603	1,515	1,584	1,584	13.5	11.4	895,000
SOUTH AMERICA									
Argentina	1,078	1,561	2,066	2,743	-	-	9.1	12.1	14,301
AFRICA									
Union of South Africa	8/ 117	197	-	-	-	-	8/ 6.3	4.9	9,771
Estimated world total 6/	101,270	106,100	88,520	88,390	86,710	86,710	-	-	1,732,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1955 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests, which begin late in 1955 and end early in 1956. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Revised estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Figure for 1935 only. 6/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 7/ Comprises Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Eastern Germany, Hungary, Poland and Rumania. 8/ Average of less than 5 years.

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The wheat crop in the Soviet Union is indicated to be substantially larger than last year, although official estimates are still not available. Spring wheat acreage increased by about 27 million acres, primarily in the eastern regions. Total wheat acreage now appears to be in excess of 150 million acres, of which the lower yielding spring wheat now accounts for over 70 percent.

Unlike last year, when weather conditions in the eastern regions of the Soviet Union were for the most part very favorable to yields, this year production was adversely affected by a severe drought. However, yields improved considerably this year over a large part of the winter wheat belt of the South, which suffered from a serious drought in 1954. This fact, coupled with the large acreage expansion, accounts for the production increase. Indications are that the rye crop is not significantly different from that of a year ago.

Wheat production in Asia now appears to be at the high level of 1,815 million bushels. Outturns in most important producing areas are reported larger than in 1954. Of most significance to the trade outlook is the substantial increase now reported for Turkey. An increase to 260 million bushels in that country's production would mean a substantial availability for export this season, after the shortage of a year ago. Production of rye in Turkey, placed at 26 million bushels, is also much above average.

In Africa the 1955 wheat production is estimated at 190 million bushels compared with 220 million last year. Reductions are reported for all principal producers except the Union of South Africa. Preliminary forecasts for that Southern Hemisphere country show a slight increase over the 1954-55 harvest. Rye is of no significance in this area.

The wheat harvest now under way in South America is tentatively forecast at 345 million bushels, compared with 393 million last year. Most of the reduction is estimated for Argentina, where about 240 million bushels may be harvested, compared with the large crop of 282 million last year. Rye production is also expected to be somewhat below the 1954 level.

Australia's wheat outturn is expected to be the largest since 1949. A tentative estimate of 210 million bushels compares with 167 million last year. The increase is due to high yields, with total acreage reported virtually unchanged from that of a year ago. Very large carryover stocks bring the total supply to a record figure of about 300 million bushels.

L A T E N E W S

Philippine copra exports during November amounted to 69,949 long tons, a decline of almost one-fourth from the previous month but 5 percent above the volume shipped in November 1954. The breakdown of the November copra exports by country of destination is as follows: United States--19,614 tons (Atlantic-2,677, Gulf-1,000, Pacific-15,937); Belgium--1,500; Denmark--4,000; Republic of Germany--3,000; the Netherlands-22,935; Norway--1,000; Europe unspecified--5,500; Lebanon--400; Colombia--5,500; Venezuela--3,500; and South America unspecified--3,000.

November exports of coconut oil amounted to 5,388 tons compared with 7,404 in October and 6,042 in November 1954. Shipments were as follows: United States--4,938 tons (Atlantic); and Europe unspecified--450. On a copra equivalent basis, exports of copra and coconut oil January through November of this year totaled 833,507 tons, or 5 percent more than the 796,112 tons exported in the same months of 1954.

The copra export price in mid-December was \$145.00 per short ton, c.i.f. Pacific. Local buying prices in Manila ranged from 24.00 to 26.00 pesos per 100 kilos (\$121.93 to \$132.09 per long ton) resecada, Manila and producing areas.

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